Aided service has been looked upon practically a part of the Government service—it was and even now it is so. Hence, the Government must view the affair in a different light and also with more sympathy towards these poor teachers. I do not want to press this motion to a division now. I will postpone it to a later date. I want by this to create a sort of public opinion in the State on this matter.

Mr. K. S. Panicker *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram):* Public opinion is that it is a commercial concern.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* There are such managers. Government should contribute something and help such poor teachers, I don't mind managers being penalised.

Mr. K. S. Panicker *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram):* There is no use of shedding crocodile tears.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Don't call him a crocodile.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* I do not press this motion to a division. If the Government would consider this with more sympathy, the poor teachers would be in a better condition than at present. I beg leave of the house to withdraw the motion.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

CUT MOTION No. 61

Aid to Schools started in 1117 or earlier

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 17,996 for establishment of the Director by Re. 1. To request the Government that aid should be given to all classes and divisions started in Edavam 1117 or earlier.* There is a cut motion in the name of the Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri. That is cut motion No. 24.

Mr. C. K. Nayar *(Nemmara):* There is one cut motion in name—Cut motion No. 27.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* The Honourable the Finance Member on behalf of the Government gave a very excellent demonstration of the very great sympathy for the poor teachers. If that is so, I think the Government will readily accept the motion which is for the benefit of the teachers. In these days when we hear so much of compulsory education in the State I think this motion would never have to come here. Because it is the duty of the Government to pay all the teachers who are running the schools. If compulsion is introduced then Government will have to pay the teachers. In such cases, Government will also have to feed the poor students. Now before we come to that stage of compulsory education, let us pay all teachers, who have been running the school for the past two or three years. The Hon'ble the Director of Public Instruction in his report on education last year in the concluding portion has stated that the attendance in Primary schools is going down. I have verified the figures. I find the reason is that the lowest attendance is only in the case of Depressed Class students. In all the other cases there is increase of attendance. Already in the case of the Deprassed classes there is a decrease of attendance that contributes to the decrease in the general attendance of the schools. I am coming to the point.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Thank God.

Mr. A. V. Moothedn *(Chalakkudi):* For understanding my point these collateral cicumstances have to be borne in mind. The Hon'ble Member for Mattancheri will insist upon free compuslory education and he will I am sure support this motion, as a condition precedent.

The House rose for lunch at 1-30 p.m. and reassembled at 2-30 p.m. with the Deputy President in the Chair.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Sir, the question before the House is whether we should give grant to schools started in 1117 and prior to that. These poor teachers without any remuneration whatsoever have been voluntarily working for the past 3 years. I know one instance. In Kodakara, the Director has been pleased to sanction the starting of a school. In 1115 he gave permission to start a school. There were backward and depressed class children, Christians and Ezhuvas, all poor. A lower primary school was started in 1115 in Thaisseri. Each teacher has advanced out of their pocket about Rs. 100 or more and in the past 3 years they have been working and even now they are not given any aid. Can a harder case be imagined? Virtually there is a manager, but he is not rich enough to advance any money and so the teachers have been suffering. Even now they are not receiving any aid. Some of the Hon'ble Members, the lady member for Ernakulam, was observing, hand over all the schools to the Government, they will pay all the teachers. That question is a very simple question, so simple that it is full of fallacy. Sir, even now, according to the Director of Public Instruction, the education demand is the highest in the State, more than 1/5th of the State revenue is spent for education. If the proposal of the lady member for Ernakulam is accepted, the expenditure will come to more than Rs. 30 lakhs.

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Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* How ?

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* According to the S. K. Committee report, for running a Sirkar School, 2½ times the expenditure required for an aided school, is necessary.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* The managers are not spending anything.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Whatever it might be, many teachers will be benefitted, they will get pension, there will be pucca buildings, fine gardens, there will be no poverty, there will be plenty of money for contingencies, there will be beautiful furniture, floor will be cemented and carpeted also by the Sirkar. It is a very good idea, but can the State afford to spend so much money on an object which is illusory. I say regarding efficiency also, Sirkar Schools are far less efficient than aided schools. I know the instance of the schools at Chalakkudi. They do not take any interest because they get their pay. In the aided schools, the teachers take so much interest, they are permanent, students also belong to the locality, teachers go the students' houses advise the parents and there is much improvement in the welfare of the students. Well, this is my experience. In Chalakkudi, there are two schools, Sirkar and aided. In the Sirkar school the result is 35 per cent. Now I think it has improved. On the other hand in the local girls' school, the result is much better. What does it show? The efficiency in the Sirkar school is less than the efficiency in aided school. Regarding expenditure, it is 2½ times more than the expenditure required for running aided schools. And then attendance. In the case of Sirkar schools, there are classes running with 16 students.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Classes running with 16 students ?

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* There are classes.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* I think I cannot claim more intimate knowledge of schools in his jurisdiction, still I may be allowed to say that there are not classes with a strength of 16 except perhaps in one taluk, Chittur.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* I said only Sirkar schools.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* There are aided schools running with less than that number.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Then you give only half-grant.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Under special conditions, we have given full grant also.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Before rising for launch, I said more depressed students attended aided schools, the reason being teachers take a personal interest. They go to the cottages of Pulayas and Parayas and get the students enrolled. I know from my own personal knowledge. While I was studying in the Intermediate class, I have made our Pulayas go to school and one of them has passed school final and he has entered Government service. The late Mr. Mathai, the then Director said that unless depressed class students were admitted, no aid will be given. These teachers went from house to house and enrolled students. It has to be admitted even from that point that illiteracy is rampant only among the depressed classes and if you want to eradicate illiteracy, the first thing should do is to take all depressed class students to schools.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* The cut motion is for giving grants to schools.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* I am discussing the merits of Sirkar and aided schools.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* On a point of order. We have got many cuts and the Hon'ble Member is taking much time.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* My friend the lady member for Ernakulam was observing, why not hand over all schools to Government. I was answering that observation.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* That has been answered.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* That was why I was comparing the efficiency, attendance of the aided schools and Sirkar schools.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* The Hon'ble Member has made some statements.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* These facts are borne out by records.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* They are not.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Is not the expenditure for Sirkar schools 2½ times that for an aided school. Therefore, from the financial standpoint, efficiency, attendance and universal adult education, aided schools are better. Therefore I say you aid all aided schools.

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That is the point. Therefore, every encouragement should be given to aided schools. You may start Sirkar schools. We have no objection. In Kodakara, a poor and backward area, the Director was pleased to give permission to start a school. That school was running for the past three years. I request that allowances may be given to all the teachers working there.

CUT MOTION No. 62

Aid to Primary classes when conditions of recognition are satisfied

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* The motion that stands in my name reads thus.—"*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 74,019 for Direction and Inspection by Re. 1. (To urge the Government to aid Primary Classes or divisions newly opened as soon as the conditions of recognition are satisfied).*

Deputy President : That is on a different issue.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Of course, it is more comprehensive than Mr. Moothedan's. I think it was so stated by Mr. Moothedan.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Not only that, it involves principle. In the other, there is no question of principle. It will be impossible.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* If the House is magnanimous enough to grant the prayer contained in cut motion 24, Mr. Moothedan's motion is necessarily satisfied and he will not be moving or rather pressing it. If the House will allow me to place my arguments in support of my cut motion, and if I am able to satisfy the House, as I believe I will be able to, and get the verdict of the House in favour of the cut motion, the Hon'ble Member for Chalakkudi will not certainly be pressing his case, because his case and something more is gained. Have I the permission of the Chair to continue.

Deputy President : One by one, each motion will have to be put to the vote.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* My motion may be put to vote first and if it is passed, there may be no need to put the motion of Mr. Moothedan for vote. I had a talk with him on that and he has agreed. If my motion is not carried, his motion will have to be put to vote. I am hopeful of carrying the bigger thing.

Now, Sir, it needs no saying that primary education is the first charge on the revenuees of any civilised administration. That is an uncontradicted and uncontradictable statement. Then we come to the question what is the agency through which primary education can be achieved. Evidently the answer is there—Government must come in. When it is said that on the revenues of the State the first charge will be that for primary education, it necessarily follows that the State has to provide for it by running Schools of their own. The question is whether the Government of Cochin today or at any time in the future will be in a position to spend all the money that is necessary for bringing to the doors of every house minimum literacy. That is the question. Any man who has gone into statistics of the State and gleaned through the pages of the various Census Reports from about half a century back up till the last one in 1931 will be able to see that only a small percentage of the children of school going age is attending schools. That is again a fact which will not be contradicted. If contradicted, I will place before you your own documents—Census Reports, Administration Reports, and various orders passed by various administrations, different Diwans at different times. Therefore the question comes to this. Because of the fact that Government will not be able to find the necessary funds for running all the necessary schools to advance education and drive away illiteracy if you can have an agency which will cater to the needs of the people or the student population of the State, without the Government being forced to spend all the money for that, you must welcome, you must embrace with both arms. And what has been the policy of the State? I have to take the Hon'ble Members to a period of more than quarter of a century back. I am referring to the days of Sir Albion Banerjee's Diwanship. It was in his days that the Code was revised and a committee that was appointed to look into the working of the new Code has reported about the place that aided schools should have in the State and in passing orders upon that report, you will be pleased to find, Sir, a statement to this effect, that the only way for Cochin with its limited finances at that time, was to encourage the private agency to run private schools for advancement of literacy. To that effect goes the order of the Government. I was searching in the Library to get at that Blue Book, but unfortunately I did not succeed. I am not in a position now to quote off-hand the very sentences which would have advanced my cause a little better. I made enquiries of the Hon'ble Member for Education, but the researches failed there also. But take it from me that this is the gist of that order. But for the very excellent luncheon that we had in the noon, I would have been able to pick up from the books

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